Los Angeles County
Department of Regional Planning

Planning for the Challenges Ahead

Richard J. Bruckner
Director

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TO: Supervisor Don Knabe, Chair
Supervisor Gloria Molina
Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas
Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky
Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich

FROM: Richard J. Bruckner
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QUARTERLY STATUS REPORT ON BOARD MOTION REGARDING RURAL ISSUES AND THE GENERAL PLAN UPDATE (DECEMBER 9, 2008, ITEM 39-B)

On December 9, 2008, the Board instructed the Director of Planning to take the following actions:

1. Formulate draft standards for development of rural communities within the General Plan Update;

2. Identify provisions that relate to development of rural communities in future outreach efforts concerning the General Plan Update;

3. Make a presentation to the Association of Rural Town Councils (ARTC) no later than April of 2009, concerning rural issues and the General Plan Update; and,

4. Report back to the Board of Supervisors every 90 days identifying how the Department is addressing rural issues in the General Plan Update.

This quarterly report, as directed by the Board motion, summarizes the progress of the Department of Regional Planning (Department) in addressing the actions outlined above.

Antelope Valley Area Plan Update

During this quarter, the Department continued its efforts to complete the Antelope Valley Area Plan Update. On June 10, 2014, the Board directed the Department to release the Notice of Preparation (NOP) for the Antelope Valley Area Plan Update. The NOP was released on June 12, 2014; scoping meetings were conducted in the Antelope Valley

on June 26, 2014, and in downtown Los Angeles on July 7, 2014. More information on the Antelope Valley Area Plan Update effort can be accessed at the following link: planning.lacounty.gov/tnc.

General Plan Update

During this quarter, the Regional Planning Commission (RPC) continued the public hearing process for the General Plan Update. On April 23, 2014, staff presented the Draft Hillside Management Ordinance, a Draft Hillside Design Manual and the Significant Ecological Areas (SEA) Program, including an overview of the goals and policies, draft ordinance, and SEA Program Guide. The matter was continued for further discussion to June 25, 2014, and subsequently continued to August 6, 2014. Furthermore, on May 28, 2014, staff presented the Draft Zoning Consistency Program, and on June 25, 2014, staff presented the Draft Community Climate Action Plan.

More information on the General Plan Update public hearing process, including public comments and a full hearing schedule, can be found at the following links:

- Hillside Management effort: planning.lacounty.gov/hma
- SEA Program: planning.lacounty.gov/sea
- Zoning Consistency: planning.lacounty.gov/generalplan/zoning
- Community Climate Action Plan: planning.lacounty.gov/ccap/draft
- Public comments: planning.lacounty.gov/generalplan/comments2014
- Hearing schedule: planning.lacounty.gov/generalplan

The Department released the Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) for the General Plan Update on June 23, 2014. The General Plan Update DEIR can be accessed at the following link: planning.lacounty.gov/generalplan/ceqa.

Other Efforts Related to Rural Issues

During this quarter, the Department began the environmental work for the Draft Renewable Energy Ordinance by releasing of an NOP and conducting scoping meetings in the Antelope Valley on May 20, 2014 and in downtown Los Angeles on May 22, 2014.

The Department also applied for a grant from the Citizens' Institute for Rural Design to host a local design workshop in Sun Village. The purpose of the workshop is to address rural design challenges with the planned High Desert Corridor, which is a 63-mile multipurpose transportation corridor including potential highway, high speed rail and bikeway components.

Furthermore, with the certification of the Housing Element Update on May 31, 2014, staff posted a user-friendly web-based version of the adopted Housing Element, which can be found at the following link: planning.lacounty.gov/housing.

Stakeholder Outreach

During the past quarter, staff continued to reach out to stakeholders to discuss issues of concern in rural communities. Staff met with the following stakeholder groups:

- Building Industry Association (April 9, 2014)
- Lake Los Angeles Town Council (April 22, 2014)
- Acton community (April 29, 2014)
- Three Points community (May 14, 2014)
- Agua Dulce Town Council (May 14, 2014)
- Antelope Valley Board of Trade (May 27, 2014)
- Antelope Valley Blue Ribbon Committee (June 11, 2014)
- Greater Antelope Valley Association of Realtors (June 19, 2014)
- Antelope Valley East Kern Water Agency (June 30, 2014)

The next quarterly report on rural issues and the General Plan Update will be delivered no later than October 6, 2014.

Should you have any questions regarding the General Plan Update, Housing Element Update, or the Community Climate Action Plan, please contact Connie Chung at (213) 974-6417 or cchung@planning.lacounty.gov. For questions related to the Antelope Valley Area Plan Update, Hillside Management effort, SEA Program and the Renewable Energy Ordinance, please contact Susan Tae at (213) 974-6476 or stae@planning.lacounty.gov. For questions regarding the proposed rural zones, please contact Bruce Durbin at (213) 974-6432 or bdurbin@planning.lacounty.gov.

RJB:MC:CC:ST:cc:ems

c: Executive Office, Board of Supervisors
County Counsel
Chief Executive Office (Rita Robinson)
Association of Rural Town Councils (Vance Pomeroy, Director)

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